

News Release

Visual Communication and Interdisciplinarity Take Center Stage at Institute for Advance Studies Conference at the U of M Crookston on Thursday, October 14, 2010; Conference is free and public welcome

By Itollefts on Tuesday, September 14, 2010

For the first time the University of Minnesota Crookston will host an Institute for Advanced Study Conference focusing on the topics of visual communication and interdisciplinarity. The conference, held under the auspices of the University of Minnesota Institute for Advanced Study (IAS), is scheduled for Thursday, October 14, 2010, in Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center beginning at 9 a.m. The conference will bring together faculty, staff, students, and communicators of all kinds to examine the power and presence of visual communication. The conference is free and open to the public.



Special guests for the conference are Bryan Crable, Ph.D., department chairperson and associate professor in the Communication Department at Villanova University College of Liberal Arts and Sciences in Villanova, Penn.; David Beard, Ph.D., assistant professor in the Department of Writing Studies at the University of Minnesota, Duluth; visual artists Annie Young, Burnsville, Minn., and Ethan Heidlebaugh, Minneapolis, Minn.; and Craig Dunn, executive director of VSA Minnesota in Minneapolis, the state organization on the arts and disability.

The conference schedule includes faculty presentations, student presentations, and artistic displays. The lunch hour will be devoted to engaging the themes through discussion with the presenters and artists. The discussion concludes with a synthesis and review of the themes to that point by Crable, Dunn; and Mark Huglen, associate professor of communication at the U of M Crookston.

The conference will encourage a dialogue across a wide spectrum of visual communication subjects including fine arts, math and science, business, and the liberal arts. Disability accommodations are available upon request by contacting Laurie Wilson at 218-281-8587 by Monday, October 4.

Conference sponsors include the Institute for Advanced Study, University of Minnesota; Liberal Arts and Education Department and Office of Students with Disabilities at the Crookston campus; and the UMC Coca-Cola Beverage Partnership - Community Initiatives Grant. This activity is also funded, in part, by a grant from the Northwest Minnesota Arts Council and the Minnesota arts and cultural heritage fund as appropriated by the Minnesota State Legislature with money from the vote of the people of Minnesota on November 4, 2008.

The IAS, established in 2005 at the University of Minnesota, was designed to create intellectual community across and beyond the boundaries of the University. The Institute for Advanced Study pursues its vision through three primary strategies. First, it provides a physical space at the Nolte Center where artists, scientists, and scholars can engage in and share their work. This strategy encompasses not only scheduled events and presentations, but also unplanned encounters and serious play that facilitate unexpected inspiration, revelation, and collaboration. Second, it supports faculty fellowships and research collaborative programs that bring together artists, scientists, and scholars from across and beyond the University. Third, it convenes an annual symposium that catalyzes conversations across the University of Minnesota and that highlights the most innovative research initiatives that exist in the United States and the world. To learn more, visit <http://ias.umn.edu>.

Today the University of Minnesota Crookston delivers 29 bachelor's degree programs, 18 minors, and more than 40 concentrations, including several online degrees, in the areas of agriculture and natural resources; business; liberal arts and education; and math, science and technology. With an enrollment of about 1,400 undergraduates from more than 25 countries and 40 states, the Crookston campus offers a supportive, close-knit atmosphere that leads to a prestigious University of Minnesota degree. "Small Campus. Big Degree." To learn more, visit www.umn.edu.

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